

## TREATING THE WHOLE PATIENT: THE CHANGING ROLE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL

### STATEMENT OF NEED

Patients with schizophrenia and other serious mental disorders are at increased risk for a variety of medical disorders, including obesity, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, heart disease, and osteoporosis. They are also at risk of reduced access to medical treatment and poor quality of medical care, including underdiagnosed and undertreated medical problems. In addition, the healthcare system may treat people with schizophrenia differently than others. Physicians may be uncomfortable treating people with severe mental disorders, and mental health professionals may not feel comfortable providing primary and preventive healthcare for their patients. Many in the field are arguing for a closer connection between mental health and general healthcare delivery, but it is unclear exactly how this integration will be realized.

The "second generation" or atypical antipsychotic medications have improved our ability to treat this patient population, but they may contribute to the risk of medical morbidity. This psychLINK™ presentation is the first of a three-part series that will focus on the potential adverse health consequences of atypical antipsychotics in seriously mentally ill patients. Experts will discuss overall risk assessment in patients with schizophrenia and other serious mental disorders, including evaluation of health habits and lifestyle, and monitoring of clinical and laboratory indices.

### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this activity, the participant should be able to:

- Define and compare healthcare delivery models that will insure adequate attention to the total health of the seriously mentally ill patient.
- Recognize common medical conditions that occur in the seriously mentally ill patient.
- Underline critical factors that should be considered in the prescription of antipsychotic medications.

### TARGET AUDIENCE

Physicians, Pharmacists and Nurses

### CE CREDIT INSTRUCTIONS AND ACCREDITATION INFORMATION

Successful completion of this CE activity (EDA #550-0813) includes the following:

- View the video presentation and review the syllabus.
- Complete the appropriate CE application and activity evaluation form. Excluding physicians, participants must complete the post-test.
- Submit forms to the site coordinator for processing.

In the interest of full disclosure, please be advised that commercial supporters may obtain lists of registrants for demographic purposes and internal assessment of the activity's efficacy.

Participants will receive a CE statement of credit within 4 weeks following receipt of the CE application and activity evaluation form. There is no fee for participating in this activity.

**PHYSICIANS:** PRIMEDIA Healthcare, a division of PRIMEDIA Workplace Learning, is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) to sponsor continuing medical education for physicians. PRIMEDIA Healthcare designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1.0 hour(s) in Category 1 credit toward the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity. This CME activity was planned and produced in accordance with the ACCME Essentials.

**NURSES:** This activity for 1.2 contact hour(s) is provided by PRIMEDIA Healthcare, a division of PRIMEDIA Workplace Learning, which is accredited as a provider of continuing education in nursing by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. Accreditation by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation refers to recognition of educational activities and does not imply approval or endorsement of any product.



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CPE Credit: 1.0 contact hour or 0.10 CEU(s)

Universal Program Number: 775-999-03-039-L01 (live presentation) / 775-999-03-039-H01 (videotape)

Viewing location for this live presentation:

Additional dates for viewing the recorded activity:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**WEDNESDAY,  
OCTOBER 22, 2003**

**12:30 – 1:30 PM EST  
Rebroadcast 3 PM EST**

**Live on satellite and the  
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[www.psychlink.com](http://www.psychlink.com)**

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